



Learning Disability Partnership Board in Surrey

Minutes of our September 2022 Meeting.

Chaired by Anna Waterman.



Held on Thursday 1 September 2022 using Teams and in person at Woodhatch Place in Reigate.

At our September 2022 meeting we talked about:



New advocacy contract with POhWER and Matrix

Mark Rapley updated us.



Guilfest 2022

Mike Leat, Daniyal Ashraf and James Langcake updated us.



Glastonbury experience - Peak15.

David Holmes, Lex, Holly and Luke updated us.



Updates from Adult Social Care and co-production.

Anna Waterman updated us.



Local Updates.

Members updated us.

Our May 2022 minutes were agreed



The minutes are available on our website.

[Surreypb](https://www.surreypb.org.uk)



Keep updated about local events and news.



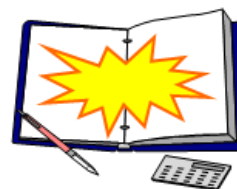
Up-to-date news about events and services can be seen in the [latest news section of our website.](#)



If you have any news or events to tell us about please email ldcommunications@surreycc.gov.uk and we will send it out in our weekly news email.

Update on actions from our May 2022 meeting.

ACTION



Hospital Passports.

Liz Williams has spoken to Leanne Yeo about what could be done to make them easier to fill in.



Annual Health Checks.

Liz Williams shared the data the past years Annual Health Checks with the Primary Care Liaison Team.



Easy Read letters.

Mary Hendrick will continue to work with Mike Leat to get the Easy Read letter tool working on our new website.



Healthy Living and IT courses.

Liz Williams and Alison Caraccio will meet to talk about the healthy living and IT courses. We will have an update at our next meeting.

New Contracts for Surrey Adult Advocacy Services.



Mark Rapley and Martin Coombes updated us.

What is Advocacy?

Advocacy is for people who:

- Find it difficult being involved in decisions about their care and having their voice heard.
- Normally have no other independent person to help them do so.



Advocacy can help people:

- Say what they want.
- Secure their rights.
- Represent their interests.
- Obtain services they need.



Advocacy in Surrey.

Advocacy services.

Advocates and advocacy schemes work together with the people they support and take their side.

Advocacy promotes social inclusion, fairness and social justice.

Advocacy is free, independent and confidential.



Commissioning advocacy services in Surrey.

Adult Social Care at Surrey County Council commissions legal advocacy services for adults in Surrey and also some discretionary services on behalf of the NHS.



New advocacy contracts in Surrey.

Our new advocacy contracts started on 1st July 2022.

If a person will now get advocacy from a different provider they have been informed and given consent for their information to be shared with the new provider.



Types of advocacy.

Instructed advocacy.

Instructed advocacy is when a person is able to tell the advocate what their needs and wishes are, and what support they need.

They can ask the advocate for support and tell them what actions they would like to be taken on their behalf.



The provider of instructed advocacy for adults in Surrey has changed. POhWER is the new provider and referrals should now go to them.



Non-Instructed Advocacy.

Non-instructed advocacy is provided as a best interest decision or legal requirement to individuals who have been assessed to lack the mental capacity to instruct an advocate.



The provider of non-instructed advocacy for adults in Surrey has not changed. Matrix is the provider, and referrals should still go to them.



Instructed Advocacy provided by POhWER.

In Surrey, from 1 July 2022, POhWER is providing:

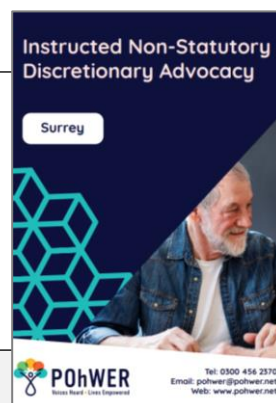
- Instructed Independent Mental Health Advocacy (IMHA)
- Instructed Care Act Advocacy
- Instructed Discretionary Advocacy

Advocacy is subject to eligibility criteria – we will work out if you can have an advocate.



How to make a referral to POhWER.

The information on the [POhWER website](#) about instructed advocacy in Surrey contains leaflets which can be downloaded to explain the different types of instructed advocacy.



Social care or health professionals referring people for instructed advocacy should use the online forms:

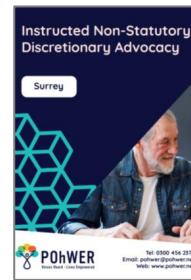
[POhWER online referral forms](#)

Who can refer someone to POhWER?

Only professionals can refer to POhWER for Care Act advocacy.



Individuals themselves and professionals can refer to POhWER for IMHA or discretionary advocacy.



How to contact POhWER.

POhWER's Help Hub is open from Monday to Friday, 8am to 6pm (excluding bank holidays).



Telephone: 0300 456 2370



Text: Send the word 'pohwer' with your name and number to 81025



Skype: pohwer.advocacy



Email: pohwer@pohwer.net



Minicom: 0300 456 2364



Non- instructed Advocacy provided by Matrix.

In Surrey, from 1 July 2022, Matrix is providing:

- Non-Instructed Independent Mental Health Advocacy (IMHA).
- Non-Instructed Care Act Advocacy.
- Independent Mental Capacity Advocacy (IMCA).
- Relevant Persons Representatives (DoLS).

How to make a referral to Matrix

Professionals referring people for non-instructed advocacy can use the online referral forms:

[Matrix online referral forms](#)

A thumbnail image of a green and white form titled 'matrix INDEPENDENT MENTAL CAPACITY REFERRAL FORM'. The form contains various sections for professional details, patient information, and a referral request.

Telephone: 0300 199 0301



Email (general enquiries): enquiries@matrixsdt.com

Email (referrals): referral@matrixsdt.com



Website: For further information about non-instructed advocacy in Surrey, please visit the Matrix website.

Guidance for referrals.

Independent Mental Health Advocate (IMHA) and Care Act Advocacy referrals should be made to POhWER.



If it is established that the person lacks the mental capacity to instruct an IMHA at POhWER, referrals will be forwarded to Matrix.



Where it has been established that the person lacks the mental capacity to instruct an advocate prior to the referral (e.g., the person has severe dementia), the referral can be made directly to Matrix.



For Independent Mental Capacity Advocacy (IMCA) services and Non-Instructed Care Act advocates, referrals should go directly to Matrix.



The arrangements for advocacy providers in Surrey apply to anyone living in the county including:

- Hospital patients.
- Prisoners.
- Care home residents.
- Carers.



Partnership Board members questions and comments about advocacy in Surrey.

How advocacy will be provided.



Mark Rapley and Martin Coombes explained the following points in answer to questions from partnership board members:

- Ideally a person will have the same advocate as before, though this can't always be guaranteed.
- There will be some face to face meetings between advocates and people they support.
- A person defined as an 'adult at risk' using the Care Act criteria will be able to have an advocate.
- Advocates will have autism training.
- If a person's capacity to communicate and make choices fluctuates POhWER and Matrix will work together to make sure they get the right support. It will be assumed a person has capacity until it's discovered they haven't.
- Advocacy services understand that capacity and consent are complex issues, and a person may be able to consent to some decisions and not others.
- The quality of advocacy services will be monitored by Surrey County Council, and regular reports will be given to the Partnership Board. Mark Rapley is keen to invite service users to join the Performance Management Meetings in the future to help quality check advocacy services.
- Carers may be eligible for an advocate to help them access a carers assessment.

Guilfest 2022



Mike Leat and James Langcake updated us.

Guilfest is a small Surrey festival that returned in 2022 after an 8 year break.



People with a learning disability, and autistic people help out as stewards at Guilfest.



Stewards help to make the festival safe for customers.

- They give people information.
- They keep the site tidy.
- They staff the entrances and car parks.
- They look out for people who might be unwell.

Since 2010 Guilfest has offered Supported Stewarding.



Guilfest works with Surrey Choices EmployAbility and The National Autistic Society Surrey Branch to provide supported stewarding opportunities for people with a learning disability and autistic people.



Supported stewards.

- Often work one day rather than the whole weekend (usually with a supporter).
- Often have specific roles carved out to suits their skills.
- As with all stewards, they have training, time off and a free meal.



Daniyal and Lauren enjoyed helping at Guilfest 2022, supported by James Langcake from Surrey Choices,

- We hope Guilfest will happen again in 2023. Go to the [Guilfest website](#) for more information.

Peak 15 – Glastonbury experience.



David Holmes, Lex, Holly and Luke updated us.

Peak15 is a family owned business.
David Holmes is the proprietor and chairman.



David Holmes explains that:

In the past few years there have been changes that give people with learning disabilities more choice and control over their lives.

Our Mission is to revolutionise life opportunities and experiences for people with learning disabilities, to create true equality between people with learning disabilities and other citizens.



Peak 15 runs housing and support services.



We support 210 people with a range of learning disabilities including autism.

All our homes should be of good quality, well decorated and furnished, and fit for purpose. Our properties are someone's home and should be treated as such.

For more information visit the [Peak 15 website](#).



Peak 15 – Big Life Adventure and Big Life Events.



The Big life Adventure is a social enterprise that helps people to explore new opportunities and adventures.

We have accessible tools to plan and guide a person's journey, multimedia tools to record and a secure social media platform.



We also provide the **Big life Events** service, which helps find opportunities and experiences for people with learning disabilities in Surrey and Sussex.

Our Glastonbury 2022 experience.



Big life does Glastonbury 2022



Wateraid Loo crew

A team of us volunteered at the Glastonbury festival in 2022.

We worked for WaterAid. We helped to clean the toilets, and people said that the toilets we looked after were the cleanest toilets on site.

We worked four 6 hour shifts each, sometimes working until midnight.

We made sure we all kept safe. We had bright yellow hoodies to make us easy to see, and had walking boots and camped in the crew camping field which was secure.

Some people's families were a bit worried about us going, but we're pleased that we stayed safe, met lots of people and had a great time.

Partnership Board members questions and comments about Peak 15.

Keeping families updated.



Mary Hendrick agreed to work with her Engagement Team to make sure that events such as Guilfest, Peak 15 and other events that might be of interest to people and families are widely publicised.

ACTION



Inspiring projects.



Partnership members commented about how inspiring the Glastonbury experience was, and Mary Hendrick said her Engagement Team will ask providers to tell us about other inspiring projects and activities people with a learning disability are involved with.

ACTION



Updates from Surrey County Council Adult Social Care.



Anna Waterman updated us.



Lead member for Adult Social Care.

Councillor Mark Nuti has taken over as the Lead Member for Adult Social Care within Surrey County Council. He replaces Councillor Sinead Mooney.

Steve Hook is leaving Surrey County Council.



Steve Hook is moving on from his role as Assistant Director to take on a new role in Brighton.

Partnership Board members wished Steve well and thanked him for all his hard work.

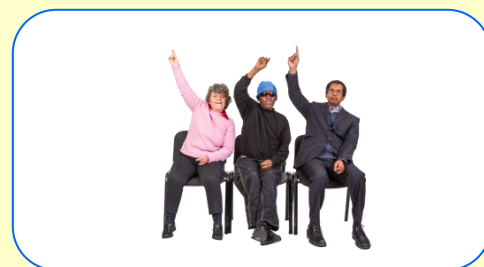
Learning Disability and Autism Engagement Team.



Samantha Lewis is our new Senior Business Support Assistant.

Amanda Aldridge will start as our new Engagement and Partnership Officer in October 2022.

Local updates.



Members updated us.

Our next Partnership Board Meeting.



Our next meeting will be on:

Thursday 3rd November 2022 from 9.45am to 12.30pm.

We are planning for this meeting to be in person, and people will be able to join online as well.

Cost of living.

Mary Hendrick is working with the Surrey County Council prevention lead to gather information about the support available in Surrey for people who are struggling to pay their bills.



The Engagement Team will produce Easy Read information about what a food bank is and how to find your nearest one.



Surrey Coalition Young Adults Group.



Yasmine Broome told us that the young adults group meets on the first Monday of every month.

It starts at 7pm and snacks and drinks are provided. Find out more by contacting Surrey Coalition via their [website](#).

Sunnybank Trust.



Lou Hart told us about all the different activities Sunnybank offer to people with a learning disability.

You can find more information on their [website](#).

Supported employment.



Justine McManus told us about a new project to help between 60 to 140 adults with a learning disability and/or autism into employment..

Surrey Choices and Surrey County Council will run a project to help 100 people find employment. This will launch in November 2022. We will hear more about this at a future Partnership Board meeting.

Training for Royal Surrey Hospital in Guildford.



We are keen to recruit Experts by Experience for this training about learning disability and autism.

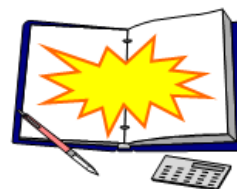
If you want to get involved email our engagement team.

ldcommunications@surreycc.gov.uk



Summary of actions from our September 2022 meeting.

ACTION



Keeping families updated

The engagement Team to make sure that events such as Guilfest, Peak 15 and other events that might be of interest to people and families are widely publicised.



Inspiring Projects

The Engagement Team will ask providers to tell us about other inspiring projects and activities people with a learning disability are involved with.



Food banks

The Engagement Team will produce Easy Read information about what a food bank is and how to find your nearest one.

Members who came to our September 2022 meeting.

Co – Chairs

- Mary Hendrick – Senior Commissioning Manager
 - Anna Waterman – Senior Commissioning Manager
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Local Valuing People Group Chairs

- Tom Moore – Surrey County Council– South West Surrey
 - Sally Dubery – Central Surrey Voluntary Action – Mid Surrey
-

People with a learning disability

- David Muir
 - Dexter James
-

Family Carer Representatives

- Sara Truman MBE
 - Gaynor Gibbins
 - Celeste and Martin Ebbs
-

Voluntary Organisation Representatives

- Yasmin Broome, Alex Hird, Kirsty Smith – Surrey Coalition of Disabled People
- Christine May – Surrey Children's Hospice
- Louise Hayes- Surrey Choices
- Jade Vallance and Angela – Active Prospects
- Justine McManus – DEA, Redhill Jobcentre
- Lou Hart – Sunnybank Trust

Members who came to our September 2022 meeting.

Surrey County Council representatives

- Imogen Osborne – Engagement Officer
 - Mary Hendrick – Senior Commissioner
 - Alison Caraccio – Surrey Adult Learning
 - Paul Baker and Gareth Owen – Transition Team
 - Andrea Green – Learning Disability and Autism Team
 - Steve Hook – Assistant Director
 - Julian Yorke – Communities and Prevention Manager
 - Cllr Bernadette Muir – Surrey County Council
-

Health representatives

- Jane Owens – Surrey Healthwatch
 - Katie Stribblehill – Lead Primary Liaison Nurse
-

Observers and Presenters

- Mike Leat – CCP Ltd.
- Mark Rapley – Commissioning Manager
- Martin Coombes - Pohwer
- Gemma Hedger – student nurse
- Daniyal Ashraf and James Langcake – Surrey Choices
- Peak 15 tbc